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APPLICATION NO. FIL		ILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/374,598		08/13/1999	JAN HENDRIK MENSEN	044696-5007	3958
23345	7590	12/29/2003		EXAMINER	
MCGUIR	EWOODS ONS BLVD		TRAN, HANH VAN		
SUITE 1800				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MCLEAN, VA 22102				3637	
				DATE MAILED: 12/29/2003	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DE PETMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Trace k Office

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APPLICATION NO./	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR /	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
CONTROL NO.		PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	

EXAMINER

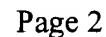
ART UNIT PAPER

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Commissioner for Patents





Application/Control Number: 09/374,598

Art Unit: 3637

1. This Office Communications is in response to the Reply Brief filed on 7/21/03.

2. In response to Appellant's remarks on page 1 of the Reply Brief that "the Examiner's Answer ignores the numerous arguments presented in the appeal brief...", the examiner take the position that said arguments have been addressed in paragraph #11 of the Examiner's Answer under the heading "Response to Argument".

3. In response to Appellant's remarks on page 2, paragraph #2, the examiner agrees with Appellant's statement in the Brief.

4. In response to Appellant's remarks regarding grouping of claims, the examiner agreed with Appellant's grouping of claims presented therein.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh V. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 308-6302. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, and alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on (703) 308-2486. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.

HVT #VT December 17, 2003

LANNA MAI SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

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